

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District

Public Notice

Public Notice No. Date: 200300532 October 21, 2003

Reply to: Regulatory Branch (CEPOH-EC-R/P. Galloway)

Respond by: **November 20, 2003**

U.S. Army Engineer District, Honolulu

Building 230

Fort Shafter, Hawaii 96858-5440

200300532

APPLICATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT FOR SHORELINE PROTECTION AND CULVERT RECONSTRUCTION AS PART OF THE AOA VILLAGE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT AT AOA BAY, TUTUILA, AMERICAN SAMOA

- 1. APPLICANT: Department of Public Works, American Samoa Government, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
- 2. AGENT: None
- **3. APPLICABLE STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344)
- 4. **LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY:** The project is located at and near the shoreline area of Aoa Village, Tutuila, American Samoa (Figure 1).

5. PROJECT PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION:

The overall purpose of the Aoa Village Road Reconstruction project, which is funded by the Department of the Interior, is to upgrade the Aoa Village road in the vicinity of Olomoana Elementary School. The activity for which Department of the Army authorization is required will occur within only one portion (Part 3) of the overall road reconstruction project (Figure 2). Part 3 will involve the construction of a shoreline revetment to protect the road. It will also include replacement of an existing culvert where the roadway crosses Vaitolu Stream.

The planned shoreline revetment would be approximately 260 feet in length (approximately Stations 10+40 to 13+00), consisting of two segments separated by the outlet of Vaitolu Stream. Revetment construction would follow the design shown in the applicant's typical sections (Figures 3, 4). Construction would involve excavation of approximately 220 cubic yards (CY) of material from an area of approximately 150 square yards lying seaward of the MHW line. Revetment construction would also involve the discharge of fill material consisting of 1000-1700 pound armor rock (400 CY), 100-200 pound underlayer stones (475 CY), compacted fill (280 CY), and geotextile (1000 square yards (SY)). The applicant indicates that the compacted fill would consist of selected excavated material and granular fill from a quarry. The source of armor and underlayer stones has not been specified.

At the stream crossing, the applicant plans to replace the existing 24 inch concrete pipe culvert with an 8 x 4 foot concrete double box culvert and wing walls (Figures 5, 6). The upstream wing walls would be approximately 10 feet in length and the downstream wing walls would extend to the new revetment. The culvert replacement would involve excavation of the existing culvert and the discharge of approximately 95 CY of material, consisting of concrete and backfill, and approximately 435 SY of geotextile.

The total area of excavation in waters of the U.S. for the project would be approximately 150 SY (0.03 acre). The total area of fill to be discharged into waters of the U.S would be approximately 278 SY (0.06 acre).

The applicant plans to use a silt control fence along the shoreline work area and a sediment control device at the culvert replacement work site.

6. IMPACTS OF PROPOSED ACTIVITIES IF AUTHORIZED:

Construction activities have the potential to cause a temporary increase in turbidity in inshore waters, but this potential impact is expected to be minimized by the applicant's use of silt and sediment control devices during the project to mitigate effects on the aquatic environment. The marine biological community of the project area (which is devoid of living corals) would be disrupted by construction activities, but the intertidal and subtidal portions of the completed revetment would be quickly occupied by marine organisms. Project construction may cause temporary, localized increases in dust and noise.

The project is not expected to have any significant long-term adverse impacts. Because such revetment projects are normally sited where erosion is recurring and critical infrastructure is present, the number of such projects is naturally limited and cumulative effects are not considered to be significant.

7. IMPACT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES:

No potential historic properties are known in the project area. In the event that discovery of potential historic properties occurs during project execution, the American Samoa Historic Preservation Office will be immediately notified; this is a general condition that would be included in the Department of Army permit.

8. IMPACT ON ENDANGERED SPECIES:

Federally protected green and hawksbill sea turtles are known to be present in waters around the island of Tutuila. Much of the project reach consists of coarse sand, pebbles and cobbles and is not known to be used for turtle nesting. Based on the location and nature of the proposed work, the project is not likely to adversely affect the green or hawksbill turtles or any other species

which is candidate, proposed or listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

This notice has been sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Any comments they have on endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat, will be considered before a final decision is made on the permit.

9. IMPACT ON ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT:

The project is not expected to adversely affect any Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) identified pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery and Management Act (MSFCMA). This notice has been sent to the National Marine Fisheries Service pursuant to coordination requirements of the MSFCMA. Any conservation recommendations they make concerning EFH will be considered before a final decision is made on the permit.

10. OTHER GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZATIONS/CERTIFICATIONS:

The project received Section 401 Water Quality Certification issued by the American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency on June 18, 2003 and American Samoa Coastal Management Program federal consistency certification issued by the Department of Commerce on June 19, 2003.

11. EVALUATION FACTORS:

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof: among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

12. COMMENTS AND INQUIRIES:

Interested parties may submit in writing any comments that they have on the proposed permit. Comments should be forwarded so as to reach this District no later than the response date indicated on the first page of this notice. Mailed comments should cite this notice and should be sent to: Regulatory Branch (CEPOH-EC-R/P. Galloway); U.S. Army Engineer District, Honolulu; Building 230; Fort Shafter, Hawaii 96858-5440. Alternatively, comments may be faxed to the following number: (808) 438-4060. If needed, further information may be obtained from Peter Galloway via telephone at (808) 438-8416. This notice is also available at the Honolulu District web site (www.poh.usace.army.mil).

13. REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

Any person may request, in writing, within 15 days from the date of this notice that a public hearing be held to consider the proposed permit. Requests for public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Attachments:

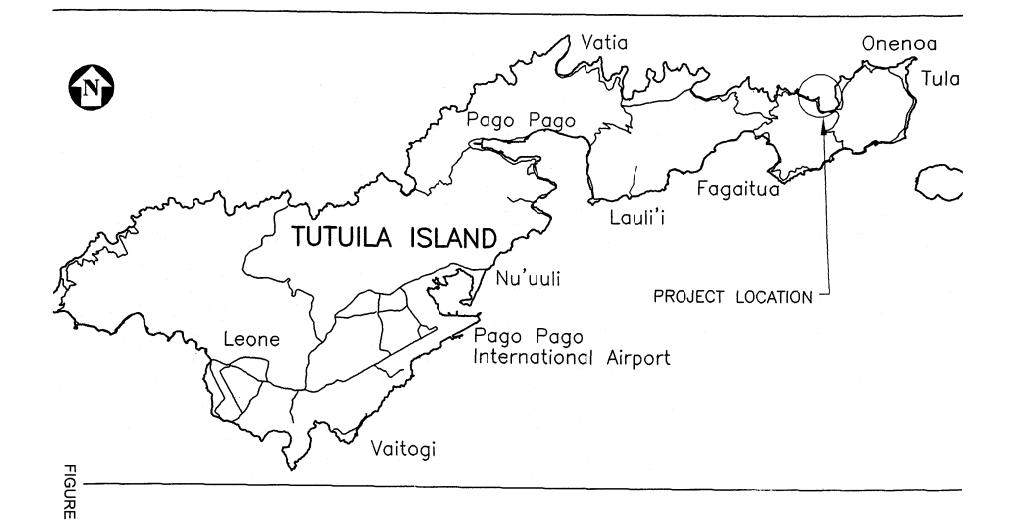
Figure 1. Location map

Figure 2. Plan view

Figs. 3, 4. Typical sections

Figure 5. Box culvert plan

Figure 6. Box culvert section



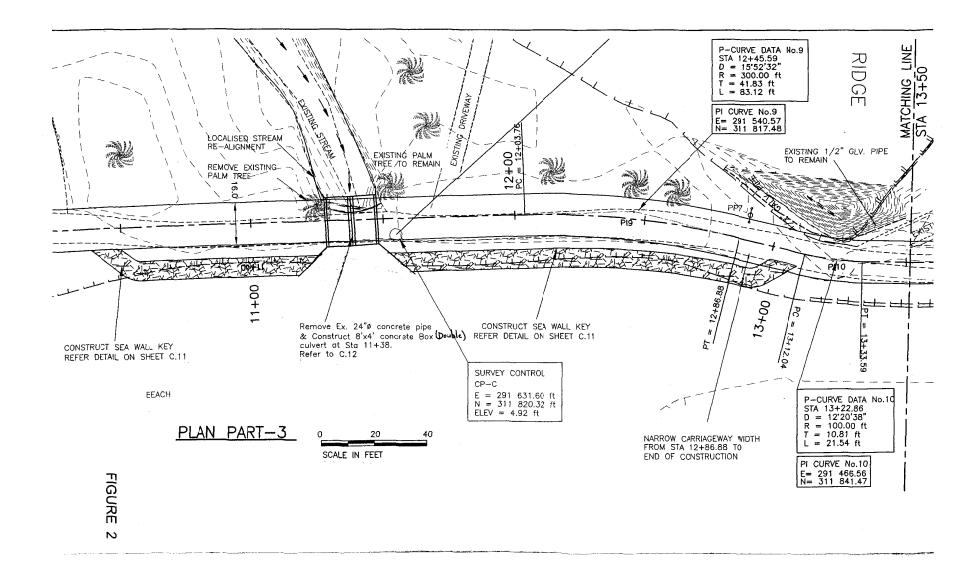
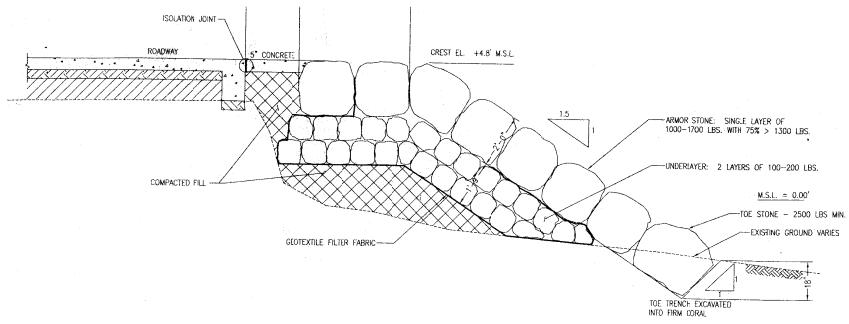


FIGURE 3



OPTION B

TYPICAL TOE CONFIGURATION FOR HARD REEF ROCK FOUNDATION CONDITIONS
SCALE: 1"=2

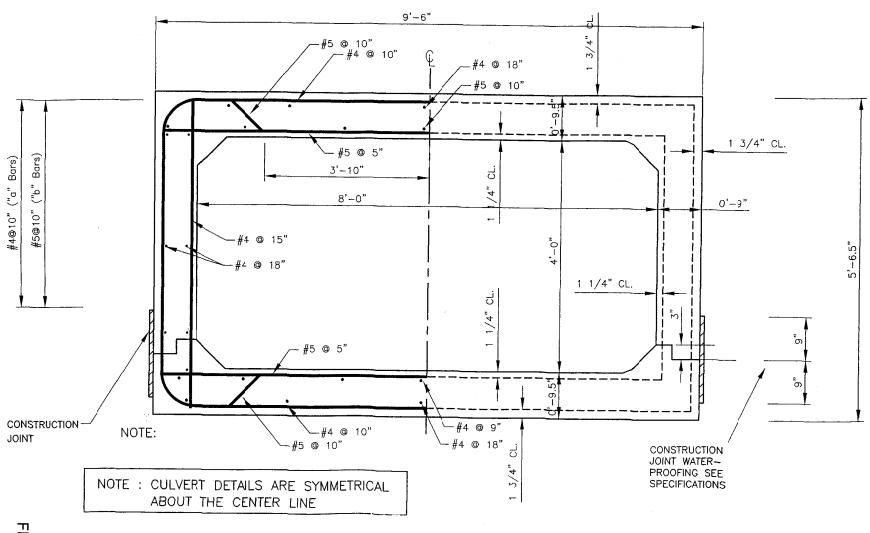


FIGURE 6

CROSS SECTION